



## Fact Sheet August 2016

### Impaired Driving in Michigan

- In 2015, 384 people died in Michigan as a result of alcohol and/or drug-involved traffic crashes, a significant increase from 319 deaths in 2014. *Michigan State Police Criminal Justice Information Center (CJIC)*
- During the 2015 Labor Day holiday, 15 people died in 12 traffic crashes, more than double the number of fatalities during the 2014 Labor Day holiday. Nearly two-thirds of the 2015 holiday fatal traffic crashes involved alcohol. *CJIC*
- Officers from more than 170 police departments, sheriff's offices and the Michigan State Police across the state are participating in the *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* initiative, Aug. 18-Sept. 5, coordinated by the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP) and paid for with federal traffic safety funds.
  - In fiscal year 2015, the OHSP provided more than \$1.8 million in federal traffic safety funds to support nearly 40,000 hours of dedicated impaired driving enforcement.
- During last year's enforcement effort, Aug. 21-Sept. 7, 2015, 351 drunk drivers were arrested and 2,630 seat belt and child restraint citations were issued.

### Seat Belts in Michigan

- The *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* initiative, Aug. 18-Sept. 5, will also include seat belt enforcement.
- In 2014, 188 people who died in traffic crashes in Michigan were not wearing their seat belts. Of those, 138 were male and 50 were female. *CJIC*
- Michigan's preliminary 2016 seat belt use rate is 94.5 percent, rising from 92.8 percent in 2015. *Michigan State University*
- The mobilization is about saving lives, not just writing tickets. Among drivers and front-seat passengers, seat belts reduce the risk of death by 45 percent and cut the risk of serious injury by 50 percent. *National Highway Traffic Safety Administration*
- Michigan has a primary enforcement law which allows officers to stop motorists who are not buckled up. The fine and associated costs for unbuckled adults is \$65.
- Michigan law requires drivers, front seat passengers and passengers 15 and younger in any seating position to be buckled up. Children must be in a car seat or booster seat until they are 8 years old or 4'9" tall, and children under 4 years old must be in the back seat.